



WHEATON URBAN DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

March 16, 2010

The Honorable Isiah Leggett
Montgomery County Executive
100 Monroe Street
Rockville, MD 20850

Dear County Executive Leggett:

The Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee (WUDAC) received a briefing by Captain Patty Walker on proposed House Bill 790, which limits the diminution credits to ten days per month for violent offenders. Under the current law, violent offenders can accrue diminution credits at a rate of 15 days per month, thereby possibly reducing their sentence by half.

Violent offenders are presently required to serve only fifty percent of their sentence before being eligible for parole. House Bill 790 does not change this but will require the offender to appear before the Parole Board at which time an assessment can be made to determine an inmate's readiness to return to the community. By passing House Bill 790, our most violent criminals will still be eligible for mandatory release after serving only sixty-six percent of their sentence.

The Wheaton Urban District Advisory Committee feels this bill would further the advancement of public safety and the protection of our citizens and we ask that you take a position of support in the current state legislative session.

We appreciate the opportunity to share our position and your continued commitment to improving the quality of life in our neighborhoods.

Sincerely,

Brett Schneider, Chair

Cc: Melanie Wenger



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